

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Indochina/Thailand

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SUBJECT Viet Minh Control over Vietnamese in Thailand

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Viet Minh terrorism, although well hidden, continues to have a powerful effect on the Vietnamese population of Thailand. However, there has not been a single case of political assassination during the past two years, although prior to the November 1947 coup d'etat in Thailand there were a number of such cases.*

2. A Vietnamese who arrives in a certain locality and who wants to reside there, is always visited by a trinh-sat (Viet Minh security agent) who asks to see his "travel permit." The "travel permit" is a sort of letter of introduction from the Vietnam Association committee of his former town or district to the committee of the town or district in which he wishes to live in the future. Without this letter of introduction the Vietnamese will be considered a "black sheep" and no other Vietnamese will dare come to see him. Not only will no one aid him in establishing himself, but people will even attempt to sabotage him.

3. Pro-Bao Dai elements in Bangkok recently printed pamphlets villifying the private life of Nguyen Duc Quy, head of the Viet Nam Delegation in Bangkok. [REDACTED] ** A large number of copies of this pamphlet were sent to northeastern Thailand for distribution among the Vietnamese population of that area. [REDACTED] Fear of Viet Minh action is so great that none of the individuals who received the pamphlets dared keep them. Those who read the pamphlets did not dare to discuss the rumors of the Nguyen Duc Quy scandal. Some individuals pretended to have heard of the scandal from persons who had picked it up in Bangkok but they hastened to add that the rumors were spread by French agents and did not have any foundation in truth.

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* [REDACTED] Comment. At present the terrorism of the Viet Minh is not of a violent nature. Nevertheless, the Vietnamese in Thailand have a great fear of the Viet Minh. This is probably based on two main reasons: (a) the memory of the former acts of Viet Minh terrorism; and (b) the ignorance of the ordinary Vietnamese and their dependence on the Viet Minh to obtain their residence papers. The ordinary Vietnamese is afraid of the Thai authorities and has a tendency to let the Viet Minh officials clear up these matters for him and obtain the necessary papers.

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